* Strengthening effectiveness and technical, managerial, financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.

* Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sector.

Establishment of Medical Colleges in remote areas

1862. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish medical colleges in remote areas of different States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of new medical colleges to be established with their locations during the year 2002-03 and 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal. However, any applicant fulfilling the eligibility and qualifying criteria prescribed in the "Establishement of Medical College Regulations 1999" brought out by Medical Council of India can apply to the Central Government for permission to establish a medical college.

(c) At present, 31 proposals for opening of new medical colleges from different parts of the country are pending with the Government of India/Medical Council of India. No time frame can be given for clearance of these proposals as clearance of these proposals depend upon fulfillment of qualifying criteria prescribed in the Regulations of Medical Council of India, availability of infrastructural facilities and recommendations of Medical Council of India thereon.

Registration of Diagnostic Laboratories

1863. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the heavy import duty on reagents used by diagnostic industry is affecting the industry;

(b) whether Government have issued any guidelines on the registration of diagnostic laboratories;

(c) whether any State has introduced the system of registration of laboratories to regulate diagnostic industry; and

(d) if so.the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No such report has been received by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

(b) and (d) Health being a State subject under the Constitution of India, it is the responsibility of State Governments to issue guidelines on the registration of diagnostic laboratories. However, Central Government is considering putting in place standards and specifications that will prescribe minimum standards for hospitals, nursing homes and other clinical establishments.

Health, Nutrition and Population Project from Government of Karnataka

1864. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sent a Health, Nutrition and Population Project worth Rs. 700 crore for recommending to World Bank; and

(b) if so, the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The State Government of Karnataka has submitted a project proposal on 'Karnataka Integrated Health, Nutrition and Family Welfare Services Development Project' with an estimate of Rs. 790 crores for World Bank assistance. It has been forwarded to the Planning Commission for comments on 11.9.2002.